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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 11 September 1992 from the Chargé
d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of
Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the letter of Dr. Mario Nobilo, Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to you on 27 August 1992 (A/47/242), requesting that an additional item be included in the agenda of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, entitled "International cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery".

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 68.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Regarding the letter dated 27 August 1992 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations, Dr. Mario Nobilo, to the Secretary-General, requesting that an additional item be included in the agenda of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, entitled "International cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery", the following considerations should be taken into account.

The attached explanatory memorandum to the above-mentioned letter indicates that the war in the Republic of Croatia is a result of "an aggression by Serbian insurgents and the so-called Yugoslav People's Army - JNA", which is absolutely not true. Indeed, it is common knowledge that problems arose in Croatia in 1990 after the new Government of the Republic adopted a new Constitution which, in comparison to the previous one, erased the Serbian people in Croatia as one of the two constituent peoples of the Republic.

Parallel with this and under numerous and diversified pressures on Serbs, the Croatian Government resorted to illegal imports of large amounts of weapons used to arm the Croats - who belong to the ruling HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union) party - and began its pogrom-style actions against the Serbian population (Plitvice, Pakrac, Borovo) on religious and State holidays. This reinforced the Serbian people's belief that Croatia's ruling party was preparing another genocide of the Serbs like the one carried out on them half a century ago by the pro-Nazi Ustashi "NDH" (Independent State of Croatia). The danger of a new genocide was even more imminent because the then and current President of Croatia openly called for genocide in his book "The Wanderings of Historic Reality", published in 1989 just before he came into office:

"Genocide is a natural phenomenon, in harmony with social and God's mythical nature. Genocide is not only permitted but is advisable, and the All-Mighty Jehovah even orders it whenever it is useful for the survival or restoration of the kingdom of the chosen people or for the preservation and dissemination of His one and only proper faith."

Hence, the Serbian people began to fight the armed pogroms against it; the response of the Croatian Government was to introduce ever larger police forces and subsequent paramilitary units, which had been formed in the meantime, along with the increasingly widespread practices of forced "ethnic cleansing" of the territories inhabited by Serbs.

For this reason, the highest authorities of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, where Croatia had also been represented, decided to engage the JNA also to keep the warring parties separated until a political settlement was reached. However, the Croatian side, trying to avoid any political settlement, continuously intensified the fighting and resorted to

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secession in order to be able to legalize and increase arms imports as an independent State, as well as to have "a free hand" for its final showdown with the Serbian people.

After all, the protection of the Serbian population who defended their homes and territories was the reason for the deployment of the United Nations peace-keeping force which was named after its protection function as the "United Nations Protection Force" (UNPROFOR).
